

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION REPORT

CONFIDENTIAL

COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

DATE DISTR. 6 April 1943

SUBJECT Activity at the Königsbrück and Riesa Training Grounds

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PLACE ACQUIRED

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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1. Königsbrück (A-31): A considerable number of tanks were delivered by rail to Königsbrück, near Dresden, on 20 January 1943. Unloading started early on 21 January, and by 1200 hours on 22 January, 680 tanks had been counted. From the sidings they were transferred to the woods around Königsbrück which form part of the maneuver grounds in that area. Most of the tanks were T-34's, but there was also a number of larger tanks, type unknown.
2. Riesa (B-31): Considerably increased artillery and rocket projector firing practice was carried out at the Riesa Training area at the beginning of January 1943. The artillery units arrived for this firing practice from various stations and then returned thither upon the termination of the practice. The rocket projector unit, however, was probably stationed in the vicinity of, or even in, the training area itself. These pieces are closely guarded and covered with tarpaulins while on the move.
3. On 3 January 1943 several of these rocket projectors were observed moving along the western side of the training area up to their firing positions. Some of these vehicles had a fully-armored semi-tracked chassis similar in appearance to the German S.W.S. One vehicle, developed engine trouble and could be inspected more closely. This was an ordinary four-ton (approx.) three-axled truck with a flat platform on which the rocket projector was mounted. The crew for the whole vehicle, including the driver, numbered seven men. The projector itself consisted of six firing rails set in two rows of three each, one above the other. The rails were placed at an angle of about 45° and pointed up over the driver's cabin. From the noise of the salvos heard during rocket projector firing practice, about twelve units, each with six firing rails, would appear to have been involved at a time.

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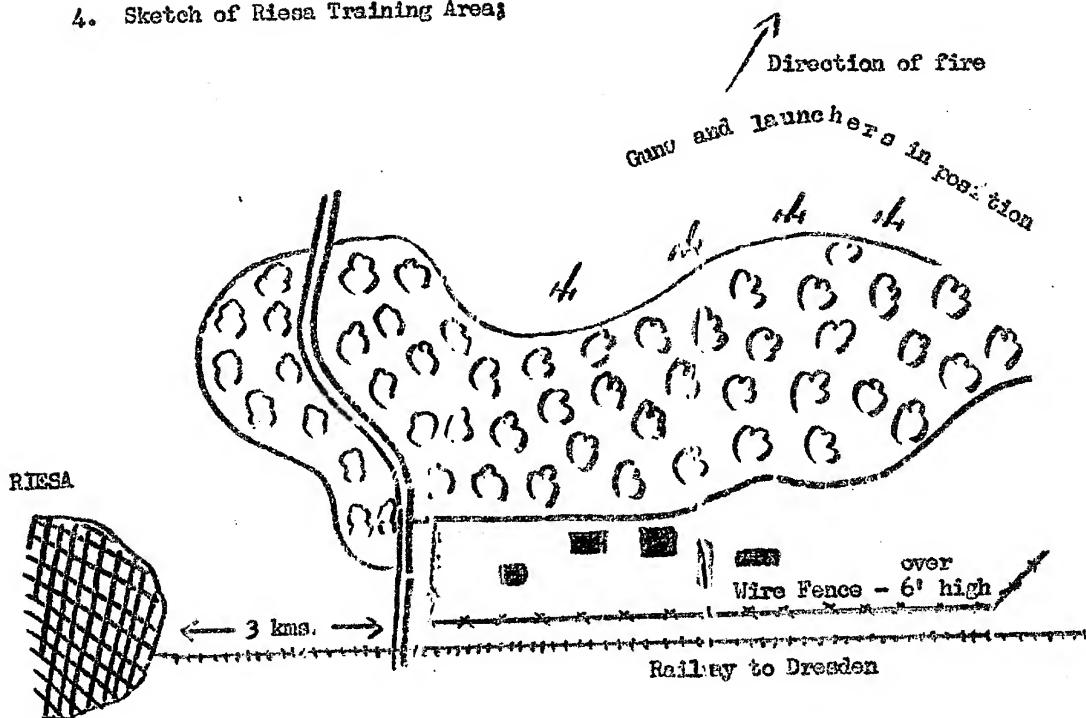
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4. Sketch of Riesa Training Area;



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